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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,261	07/11/2001	Kiyoshi Ogishi	2001-0982A	8337

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WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHAU T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/902,261	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OGISHI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Chau Nguyen	<b>Art Unit</b> 2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some    \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/11/2001</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 are presented for examination.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alam et al. (Alam), US Patent No. 6,336,124, and further in view of Makipaa et al. (Makipaa), US Patent No. 6,556,217.

4. As to claims 1 and 11, Alam discloses a display device for displaying, on a display screen, information specified in a document description language for a structured document and performing a screen switching in response to a user input, said device comprising:

analysis means for analyzing said information, and dividing said information into a plurality of component elements (Abstract: locating data in an input document, grouping data into one or more blocks (component elements));

rule change instruction means for making an instruction for a change of layout rules to be applied to said information (col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document) ;

user input means for receiving the user input (col. 5, lines 35-45: user specifies one or more output formats);

display range determination means for determining a display range of said information based on said user input (col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted);

However, Alam does not explicitly disclose layout rule change means for selecting one of said layout rules responding to the instruction from said rule change instruction means; layout means for laying out each of said component elements derived by said analysis means according to the layout rule selected by said layout rule change means; and display means for generating screen data of the display range determined by said display range determination means based on said component elements derived by said analysis means and a layout result of each of said component elements, and displaying the screen data on the display screen.

Makipaa discloses displaying information on a user terminal screen by identifying user terminal type and screen size then extracting layout rules and typographical settings from a database based on the user terminal type, calculating the space required to display the information on the user terminal screen, and the information is then displayed according to the layout rules and typographical settings, on the user terminal screen (col. 3, lines 14-28). Makipaa also discloses the layout rules for terminal type and user profile are retrieved from the user and terminal profile (col. 9, line 8 – col. 10, line 36). Since Makipaa discloses displaying information on any type of user terminal having any size screen and having different types of mechanisms for input of information, which is similar to converting digital data representing an image of a document image stored in one format to other formats for manipulation and display of Alam, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Makipaa and Alam to include layout rule change means for selecting one of said layout rules responding to the instruction from said rule change instruction means; layout means for laying out each of said component elements derived by said analysis means according to the layout rule selected by said layout rule change means; and display means for generating screen data of the display range determined by said display range determination means based on said component elements derived by said analysis means and a layout result of each of said component elements, and displaying the screen data on the display screen.

Makipaa's system can be able to operate and adapt to the differing input devices to allow for maximum utilization of the terminal the user has.

5. As to claims 2 and 12, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein said information includes at least one or more of a text element, a table element, and an image element (Alam, col. 2, lines 12-27).

6. As to claims 3 and 13, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein said document description language is a markup language or a hypertext description language (Alam, col. 2, lines 28-36).

7. As to claims 4 and 14, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction means receives the user input, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules (Makipaa, col. 3, lines 14-28 and col. 9, line 8 – col. 10, line 36: the motivation to combine Makipaa's system into Alam's is that Makipaa's system can be able to operate and adapt to the differing input devices to allow for maximum utilization of the terminal the user has).

8. As to claims 5 and 15, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction means refers to the display range determined by said to the display range display range determination means, and makes the change of the layout rules based on an attribute of each of said component elements included in the display range (Alam,

col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted).

9. As to claims 6 and 16, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction means refers to the display range determined by said display range determination means, and makes the instruction for the change of the layout rules based on the layout result of each of said component elements included in the display range (Alam, col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted).

10. As to claim 7, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein each of said layout rules included in said layout rule change means defines a layout method for each type of said component elements of said information (Alam, col. 7, line 5 – col. 18, line 36).

11. As to claim 8, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein the layout rules to be selected by said layout rule change means include one type of layout rule for laying out a table



element included in said information in a table structure (Alam, col. 7, line 5 – col. 18, line 36).

12. As to claim 9, Alam and Makipaa disclose a user input process rule change means for selecting one of a plurality of user input process rule change means for selecting one of a plurality of user input process rules applicable to said user input according to the instruction from said rule change instruction means (Makipaa, displaying information on a user terminal screen by identifying user terminal type and screen size then extracting layout rules and typographical settings from a database based on the user terminal type, calculating the space required to display the information on the user terminal screen, and the information is then displayed according to the layout rules and typographical settings, on the user terminal screen (col. 3, lines 14-28). Makipaa also discloses the layout rules for terminal type and user profile are retrieved from the user and terminal profile (col. 9, line 8 – col. 10, line 36), wherein

said display range determination means follows the user input process rule selected by said user input process rule change means, and determines the display range of said information based on said user input (Makipaa, col. 3, lines 14-28 and col. 9, line 8 – col. 10, line 36).

13. As to claims 10 and 17, Alam and Makipaa disclose wherein said rule change instruction means instructs, at the same time, said layout rule change means for the change of the layout rules, and said user input process rule change means for the

Art Unit: 2176

change of the user input process rules (Alam, col. 17, line 1 – col. 18, line 36: certain rules may be set and applied to determine how to format the input document; col. 5, lines 35-45: the one or more output formats may be specified by the user, all of one or more output formats supported and determined based upon the application or device to which the converted data output is outputted).

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-4639. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild, can be reached at (703) 305-9792.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application is assigned are as follows:


(703) 872-9306 (After Final Communications only)

(703) 872-9306 (Official Communications)

(703) 746-7240 (for Official Status Inquiries, Draft Communications only)

Inquiries of a general nature relating to the general status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Chau Nguyen  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2176

  
SANJIV SHAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER